House hold expenditure on health care

69. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a new analysis of health spending, Indians are spending over six per cent of their monthly house hold expenditure on health care and 70 per cent of this goes for buying medicines;

(b) whether per capita monthly expenditure on health-care has also gone up in rural as well as urban areas in the recent years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the total expenditure on drugs is higher than the total retail market value of drugs sold by all pharmaceutical companies in the country; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to analyze the trends in health care spending and contain the price rise of drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Expenditure on 'Medical' as percent of total consumer expenditure during 2004-05 and 2005-06 is given in the Table below:

	2004-05		2005-06	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Expenditure on 'Medical' as % of total consumer expen.	7%	5%	7%	6%

SOURCE: NSS Reports

Percentage share of 'medicine (non-institutional)' in the total expenditure on 'Medical' during 2004-05 formed 64% in Rural and 56% in Urban area.

(c) Information on total expenditure on drugs and retail market value of drugs sold by all pharmaceutical companies in the country, is not maintained.

(d) Consumer Expenditure (MPCE) surveys are conducted at regular intervals to analyze pattern of spending across various items of consumption including health care.

The following steps have been taken to control the price rise of drugs:

- Effective implementation of the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995 in respect of scheduled and non-scheduled drug / formulations
- Examination / regular monitoring of the movement of prices and also fix retail prices of non-scheduled drug / formulations, if necessary, in the interest of public.
- Revision of allowable price increase limit to 10% from 20% *w.e.f.* 1.4.2007 in respect of non-scheduled drugs.
- Creation of a separate enforcement division to keep a check on the price rise.

CGHS facility to MP staff

70. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: